## BARRY GLASSMAN HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE



## BILLY BONIFACE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Applications Available for After-School Program at Edgewood Recreation and Community Center

**BEL AIR, Md.,** (Nov. 7, 2016) - Harford County government is proud to announce the return of the after-school program at the Edgewood Recreation and Community Center located at 1980 Brookside Drive in Edgewood. This valuable after-school program was previously run by local nonprofits, but due to limited funding and shifting priorities the program was closed down in August 2015. At the direction of County Executive Barry Glassman, funding to re-establish the program was provided through the county's Children Youth and Family Division of Community Services and Criminal Justice and Drug Take Back grant funding awarded to the county's Office of Drug Control Policy.

"At only \$5 for the school year, our new after-school program offers an affordable, friendly, clean, fun and safe place for kids, allowing parents and caregivers to feel good about where their children are," said Kathy Burley, director of Harford County Parks & Rec, which runs the program held in the county-owned facility.

Students in grades 1 - 8 are eligible to register and come every day after school from 3:15 to 6:30 p.m. Harford County Public Schools will continue to provide transportation daily from neighboring William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary School to students whose current bus route includes the Edgewood Recreation and Community Center.

The Edgewood Recreation and Community Center offers students in the program a full sized gymnasium, computer lab, game room, complete with air hockey, ping pong, foosball and pool tables, board games, video games, and more. Children in the program also make crafts and watch movies in the multi-purpose room.

"The Edgewood after-school program supports our goals to develop prevention and diversion programs at the elementary and middle school levels," said Amber Shrodes, director of Harford County's Department of Community Services. "We are thrilled to help rejuvenate this important program for families in Edgewood."

In addition, the Edgewood Recreation and Community Center applied to be a Child and Adult Care Food Program site. This program, run by Harford County Public Schools, will provide hot suppers to students who attend the after-school program. The Edgewood Recreation and Community Center is the fourteenth site that Harford County Public Schools' Food and Nutrition Services will provide with hot suppers.

"Through our partnership with the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), part of the USDA, we were able to provide over 60,000 hot suppers last year," said Gary Childress, Supervisor of Food and Nutrition Services at Harford County Public Schools. "Adding Edgewood Recreation and Community Center to the sites that we are able to service this year is very exciting and we look forward to continuing this program with the CACFP and USDA."

Twenty-one students have already registered for the after-school program and space is limited. Applications are available at the Edgewood Recreation and Community Center, 1980 Brookside Drive in Edgewood. For more information, please contact 410-612-1606 or hfvass@harfordcountymd.gov.



Photo caption: Harford County Executive Barry Glassman visiting with students in the after-school program re-established by his administration at the Edgewood Recreation and Community Center. Pictured from left: Daniel, Skye, Brionah, Megan, Randi (above Megan), County Executive Glassman, Ronni (on playground equipment), Zianna, Trinaty, Asjah